(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As Ramanathapuram does not qualify for classification as a 'C' Class City on the basis of its population, it is not possible to declare Ramanathapuram as a 'C' Class city.

Joint complaint against assault on a trade union activist in Chandigarh

3448. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that various Opposition Political Parties of Chandigarh, submitted a joint complaint dated the 24th February, 1989 to the Senior Superintendent of Police, Chandigarh protesting against murderous assault on a trade union activist belonging to CITU, by goondas allegedly engaged by Pahwa Chains Industries Group, Chandigarh; and

(b) if so, the details of the incident and the steps taken by the Chandigarh Administration to apprehend the cluprits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) M/s. Pahwa Chains Industries Group had some labour problems. Some workers had gone on strike whereas some continued to work. Due to this, there was tension between these two groups of workers. Preventive action to maintain public peace and order was taken against both the parties as per law. In the meantime, as per agreement reached between the striking workers and the Management, striking workers also joined their duties. However, on 22-2-89 both the groups again indulged in criminal activities in which Shri Mohammed Shahnaz CITU activist and Shri Achhar Singh, a worker belonging to management group sustained minor injuries. Both of them were medically examined. According to the medical report the injuries they had on their person, were of simple and blunt nature and as such, no cognizable offence was made out. However, two cross criminal cases have been registered against each other.

Permission for protest by C.P.I.(M) Punjab

3449. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chandigarh Administration denied permission to the peaceful protest by the Punjab State Committee of CPI(M) for focussing the failure of Government to give adequate relief to the flood affected people recently; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for denial of the permission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) The Punjab State Committee of the C.P.I.(M) had sought permission to take out procession from Parade Ground, Sector 17 to Civil Secretariat and to stage dharna there for focussing the alleged inadequate relief provided to the flood affected people. The area of proposed procession route and dharna falls under the security zone. Moreover, prohibitary orders were also in force. There was, therefore, every possibility of infiltration of terrorists in the processionist Groups with the intention to distrub public peace in the sensitive Union Territory. Keeping all these factors in view, the permission was not granted.

Allowances admissible to workers in MITCO factories

3450. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Shift allowance is given to the Staff but not to the workers in the MITCO factories; if so, what are the reasons for this discrimination;

(b) whether it is also a fact that LTC and picnic allowance are also different for the Staff and the workers of MITCO; if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether there is any resentment amongst the workers against such discrimination in the MITCO factories at Giridih; if so, the details thereof and steps taken to settle the problem causing such agitation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) Allowance is admissible to the staff of the MITCO posted in factories of MITCO to compensate for the extra hours of duty performed by them at factories. Workers in MITCO's factories are not eligible for any such allowance as the terms and conditions governing their appointment are different.

(b) While the rates of LTC allowance payable to staff and workers are different, there is no picnic allowance payable to either staff or workers. The pay scales and fringe benefits payable to the staff and workers in MITCO are based on MITCO's agreement with the respective recognised unions of staff and workers.

(c) The wage revision for the workers is due with effect from 1-7-1988 and the workers have been asking for revision of wages and other terms and conditions including shift allowance and LTC Allowance. The Mica Trading Corporation has already constituted a Wage Committee to finalise revised pay Scales in consultation with the recognised Unions of Workers.

Chief Security Officer and Dy. Chief Security Officer in Secretariat Security Force

3451. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief Security Officer and Deputy Chief Security Officer in the Secretariat Security Force are on deputation from CRPF/BSF;

(b) if so, the details of their deputation; and

(c) the reasons for not filling the posts on regular basis in view of the fact that they are commanding a force exceeding 1000?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Post of Chief Security Officer is held by a departmental officer on ad-hoc basis. While one of the two posts of Dy. Chief Security officer is held by an officer on deputation from BSF since 3-3-1988, the other post of Dy. Chief Security Officer is vacant.

(c) Action to fill the posts of Chief Security Officer and Dy. Chief Security Officer on regular basis is in progress.

Secretariat Security Force

3452. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the nomenclature of Secretariat Security Force prior to 1968 was MHA Security Police;

(b) if so, the reasons for changing the nomenclature; and

(c) the reasons for which the employees of the Force are not allowed the same pay and allowances as are admissible to the para-military forces like CRPF/BSF etc. while the duties are more or less the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) In the initial stages of its formation the Secretariat Security Force (SSF) was known as MHA Security Police. However, in due course of time the duties and functions of the Force were made more broad-based and realistic and the Force was expanded to cover a significant number of Central Secretariat Offices all over Delhi. This necessitated a change in nomenclature.

(c) it is not correct to say that the duties of SSF employees are more or less